



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#21
BP
3-5-03

in re the Application of

Frederic BESEME et al.

Group Art Unit: 1636

Application No.: 09/446,024

Examiner: G. Leffers, Jr.

Filed: December 16, 1999

Docket No.: 105045

For: ENDOGENETIC RETROVIRAL SEQUENCES, ASSOCIATED WITH
AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES OR WITH PREGNANCY DISORDERS

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In reply to the Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment mailed January 29, 2003,

Applicants respectively submit that there is no need to file a responsive Amendment with a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA). In particular, unlike a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), a CPA is a new application. As such, there is no requirement that the Applicants respond to an Office Action issued in the previous application (see 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d)).

Early and favorable consideration of the application as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed October 30, 2002, is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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WPB:MLM/jam

Date: February 28, 2003
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